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Light Plane Tries To Bomb Nike Site

VAN NUYS, Calif., June 13 (UPI)—An unidentified light plane tried to bomb a U.S. Army Nike missile site Thursday night but the homemade firebomb fell wide of its target.

The single-engine craft with a red tail released the bomb about 250 feet over the base. It fell into a ditch just outside the fence. Authorities let the resulting small fire burn itself out.

John MacWhirter, who saw the bombing run just before sunset, said the canister tumbed out of the airplane end over end, leaving a trail of black smoke. It exploded in a puff of smoke and a ring of fire when it hit.

Police began a search of airports around this Los Angeles suburb but reported no success.